

Government Oversight Committee
Opposition Testimony on HB 51
Submitted by: Sheri Cody

Chairman Peterson, Ranking Member Forhan, and Members of the Committee,
Thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to HB 51.

As a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesiologist in Stark County, I am urging you to vote no on HB 51.

As a CRNA I have seen the devastation of gunshot wounds. According to a study of 23,000 John's Hopkins Trauma Patients, gun injuries require 10 X the units of blood to treat compared to other types of trauma, and patients who have been shot are 14 times more likely to die than other trauma patients.

Our state is having an epidemic of gun violence. According to the CDC, 1,702 Ohioans die by guns every year. Ohio's gun death rate has been growing rapidly and we now have the 23rd-highest gun death rate in the US. (1). HB 51 will make federal gun safety laws unenforceable in Ohio and will penalize cities and counties for enforcing federal laws. This is exactly the opposite of what we need in our communities to be safer. Studies show that states with looser gun laws suffer more gun deaths than states with stricter gun laws.

I urge you to vote no on HB51.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Cody, RN, BSN, CRNA

1. <https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/gun-violence-by-state>. 2023